

OUR FLEET MOVES ON HAVANA

Capt. Sampson Receives Orders From Washington.

ENTIRE UNITED STATES ARMY IS MARCHING TO BATTLE.

Movements in Army and Navy are Equivalent to An Open Declaration of War--Spain's Fleet Leaves Cape Verde Islands and is Headed In This Direction.

War with Spain in practically on. The United States navy is under orders to precipitate hostilities without further delay. Spanish authorities gave United States Minister Woodford his passports before he had presented the ultimatum of President McKinley, and this was construed as meaning a declaration of war. The president at once summoned leaders of congress and determined to commence hostilities immediately. The fleet at Key West was ordered early Friday morning to move on Havana.

Offers of troops are coming thick and fast into the war department.

The Spanish fleet of cruisers and torpedo boats have put to sea from the Cape Verde Islands, headed this way.

There is great activity in the army department of the Spanish government at Madrid.

A Washington special says: War between the United States and Spain is a fact, though not yet officially declared so by congress.

The stirring events of Wednesday were succeeded Thursday with rapidity by others of equal importance in the afternoon in orders for the departure of the North Atlantic squadron for Havana.

This practically is an act of war, so that the war between this country and Spain may fairly be said to date from Thursday, April 21st, 1898.

Two minutes after the opening of the state department Thursday morning came word from Minister Woodford that the Spanish government having anticipated and prevented his intention to present the president's ultimatum, he had asked for his passports. The administration, in a public statement, announced that it regarded the action of the Spanish government as rendering unnecessary further diplomatic action on the part of the United States and further stated that it regarded the course adopted by Spain as one placing upon that country the responsibility for the breach of friendly relations.

Mr. Woodford's telegram resulted in the calling of a special cabinet meeting to arrange an outline of a plan of campaign, or rather to determine how to begin the execution of the plan of campaign already prepared by the strategic boards of the army and navy departments.

The immediate result was the order for the north Atlantic squadron to begin the blockade of Havana.

How much further than this the cabinet progressed cannot be given out, as the movements of ships and troops should be guarded with the greatest care from undue publicity.

The north Atlantic squadron, under Captain Sampson, makes a splendid array of fine vessels, comprising battleships such as the Iowa and Indiana, monitors like the Puritan, Terror and Amphitrite; armored cruisers like the New York; protected cruisers, such as the Cincinnati, Marblehead and Montgomery; gunboats like the Vicksburg, Wilmington and Annapolis; regular torpedo boats, as the Ericsson, Cushing, Winslow and the like, no to speak of the large numbers of fast yachts and other vessels that have been added to the fleet by purchase.

This force is quite competent to block all the ports in Cuba, or at least all of the ports connected by rail with Havana and so likely to be used in the event of siege with food and munitions of war. This statement is to be taken with the understanding that it does not contemplate the coming to Cuban waters of the Spanish fleet.

If the Spanish fleet comes to Cuban waters, however, the probable policy would be to abandon the blockade and endeavor to force it to battle.

Minister Woodford's actions during the day as reported to the state department in a late telegram indicated that he was following a carefully prepared program.

A significant feature of the message was the statement that the Spanish

government notified him that it regarded its withdrawal of Minister Polo as terminating diplomatic negotiations, showing that it was not disposed to accept the expressed intention of our government to continue Mr. Woodford as a medium of communication until Saturday noon.

Mr. Woodford also announced that he had instructed Consul General Bowen at Barcelona to cause all the American consuls in Spain to immediately withdraw from the country. He further stated that he had informed the Spanish government, after asking for his passports, that he had placed the American legation in Madrid and American interests in Spain generally in the hands of the British embassy.

NOTICE SENT TO POWERS.

To all intents and purposes this relieves the state department from further mediation as to Cuba, save those relating to privateering, neutrality observances and the like. It was found necessary to frame a notice to the powers of the intention of our government to establish a blockade of Havana—a notification required by international law.

The navy department Thursday, aside from giving the orders to squadron, continued the work of adding to the navy and purchased another ship at Norfolk as an auxiliary craft and some small yachts. The news of the actual beginning of hostilities was received with gravity at the department and there were many speculations as to the destination of the Spanish squadron.

One suggestion is that it is heading to cut off the fine battleship Oregon now on its way from the Pacific coast around to join Captain Sampson's command.

There is also some fear that the Oregon may be taken at an unfair advantage, without the knowledge of the existence of war, by the Spanish torpedo destroyer *Temerario*, now lying at Buenos Ayres. The Oregon has been ordered to go around Cape Horn, instead of through the straits of Magellan. The department some time ago abandoned the idea of using the lake revenue cutters, owing to the difficulties of getting them out to the seaboard, but no international obstacle had been encountered. The Bancroft, Captain Clover, has been ordered to Key West.

In the war department many orders flew to and fro relative to the concentration of troops in the south and Secretary Alger was several times in consultation with the president, resulting in the determination to call for 100,000 volunteers as soon as congress passes the necessary legislation. The change in the composition of the cabinet by the resignation of Postmaster General Gary, was entirely unexpected and completed the list of important events of the day.

PROVIDES FOR VOLUNTEERS.

Important Measures Passed By Senate at Thursday's Session.

Three important measures were passed by the senate Thursday, all of which relate largely to the national defense. The sundry civil bill, which has been pending for two weeks and which carries a large amount of money intended to be used in the strengthening of the country's defenses, was finally passed.

The naval appropriation bill was immediately taken up and practically completed, although pending the discussion of an amendment concerning the price of armor plate, the bill was displaced in order that the measure temporarily increasing the military establishment of the United States in time of war might be considered. After a long discussion the bill as amended by the committee was passed.

A joint resolution was adopted giving the president power to prevent the exportation of coal and other war material.

Just before adjournment it became known among senators on the floor that Senator Walthall, of Mississippi, who had been ill several weeks, was dead.

WOODFORD STOOD GUARD.

MINISTER HAD AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE WITH SPANIARDS.

HIS TRAIN STONED BY A MOB.

An Attempt Was Made By Spanish Police to Arrest American's Private Secretary.

Advices state that General Stewart L. Woodford, the United States minister to Spain, accompanied by his staff and others, reached the frontier at 6 o'clock Friday morning in safety, after some exciting experiences. The Spanish police attempted to capture a member of the legation at Valladolid, and the train was rocked.

Mr. Moreno was the member of the United States legation singled out by the Spanish police for capture on the ground that he is a subject of Spain, but the attempt was frustrated, owing to the presence of mind of the minister.

At Valladolid the United States minister's train was attacked and stoned. Windows were broken and the civil guards were compelled to protect his carriage with drawn swords. The Moreno incident threatened to be serious. The Spanish police made a determined effort to capture Mr. Moreno, but General Woodford stood in the doorway of the carriage, declaring he should only be removed by force. A detachment of police accompanied the train from Tolosa to San Sebastian, where the police officials left on seeing General Woodford was determined to maintain his rights.

At Segovia the students of the military college gathered on the platform cheering for Spain and there were several similar incidents at other stopping places.

It was a great relief to the minister's party when the general finally reached French soil. But General Woodford personally seemed unconscious of any danger.

ANXIETY IN NAVY CIRCLES

Regarding the Safety of Our Ships in Foreign Waters.

It was stated at Washington Friday night that the Spaniards had captured the City of Paris a few miles out from Southampton. The City of Paris is one of the fleetest ships in the world. She is one of the American liners recently chartered in by the United States as an auxiliary cruiser. It was officially announced that she was to leave Southampton Friday.

The story goes that a Spanish war ship was lying in wait for her and after she had crossed the three mile limit the Spaniard pulled up alongside and without much resistance effected her capture.

The story created the greatest consternation in naval circles, and while it cannot be confirmed officially, leading naval officers say there is a degree of probability about it.

Secretary Long says he has no official information on the subject and he was disposed to treat it as a canard.

The City of Paris is loaded with munitions of war, thus rendering her a very tempting prize for Spanish seizure. There are several millions of dollars worth of war supplies purchased abroad which have not yet been delivered and their safety occasions great anxiety at the war and navy department.

There is a good deal of anxiety felt in naval circles for the safety of the battleship Oregon, now on her way from the Pacific waters to join the north Atlantic squadron. According to the calculations she should be near the Horn and is expected to be next heard from at Montevideo. The cause of the anxiety is the presence at Montevideo of some ships of the Spanish navy.

The Spaniards are said to have an excellent gunboat, the *Temerario*, as well as one or more torpedo boats there. It would not be surprising to the officers of the navy department to learn that the Oregon had been set upon by these Spanish boats.

Advices from Shanghai state that the American squadron at Hong Kong has sailed for Manila. It is reported that priests and the commercial classes favor surrender, but the military is determined to resist.

SEAMEN REVOLTED.

Engineers of Spanish Boats Disabled the Machinery.

The British steamer *Astoun* arrived at Galveston, Texas, Friday morning from Las Palmas, Grand Canary, one of the Canary island group. The commander of the vessel is Captain P. H. Barnet.

The machinery of the several torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers was purposely disabled by the engineers of the various craft.

Captain Barnet says he received this information from an absolutely reliable source. A plot was entered into by the several engineers to do the work, and successfully it was done.

BLOCKADE HAS BEGUN.

Our Battleships Guard Cuba.

M'KINLEY'S PROCLAMATION

Sampson's Vessels are Lined Up Off Shores of Cuba and Can Be Plainly Seen From the Island.

The following proclamation announcing a blockade of Cuban ports was issued at Washington Friday:

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:
A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by a joint resolution passed by the congress and approved April 20, 1898, and communicated to the government of Spain, it was demanded that said government at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuban waters; and the president of the United States is directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into actual service of the United States the militia of the several states to such extent as might be necessary to carry said resolution into effect; and

Whereas, in carrying into effect said resolution, the president of the United States deems it necessary to set on foot and maintain a blockade of the north coast of Cuba, including all ports on said coast between Cardenas and Bahia Honda, and the port of Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba.

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, president of the United States, in order to enforce the said resolution, do hereby declare and proclaim that the United States of America have instituted, and will maintain a blockade of the north coast of Cuba, including ports on said coast between Cardenas and Bahia Honda, and the port of Cienfuegos, on the south coast of Cuba, aforesaid, in pursuance of the laws of the United States and the law of nations applicable to such cases. An efficient force will be posted so as to prevent the entrance and exit of vessels from the ports aforesaid. Any neutral vessels approaching any of said ports, or attempting to leave the same, without notice or knowledge of the establishment of such blockade, will be duly warned by the commander of the the blockading forces who will endorse on her register the fact, and the date of such warning, where such endorsement was made; and if the same vessel shall again attempt to enter any blockaded port, she will be captured and sent to the nearest convenient port for such proceedings against her and her cargo as prize, as may be deemed advisable.

Neutral vessels lying in any of said ports at the time of the establishment of such blockade will be allowed thirty days to issue therefrom.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the city of Washington this 22d day of April, A. D., 1898, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and twenty-second.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.
By the President.
JOHN SHERMAN, Secretary of State.

Acting under this proclamation the entire fleet of the North Atlantic squadron is lined up off the Cuban coast and the blockade is on in earnest.

The ships of the fleet can easily be seen by people on the Cuban shore.

SPANISH SHIP CAPTURED.

Gunboat Nashville Fires First Shot and Takes a Prize.

The first Spanish prize to be captured by one of our ships was the steamer Buena Ventura from Pascagoula, Miss., for Rotterdam, with lumber.

The Nashville fired a blank shot, which the Spaniard ignored. This was followed by a shot from a six pounder. The Buena Ventura then surrendered with her crew of twenty men.

The Nashville towed her prize into the harbor at Key West and a prize crew placed on board.

The news of the capture of the Spaniard set the people of Key West frantic with enthusiasm.

The Buena Ventura is a tramp steamer hailing from Bilbao, Spain. She belonged to the Sarrinaga line. On March 29 she arrived at Pascagoula, Miss., from Havana, and was on the way to Pensacola, Fla., to load for Holland when captured.

PRIVATEERING NOT ALLOWED

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY SO NOTIFIES FOREIGN NATIONS.

ARTICLES OF CONTRABAND GIVEN.

All Ships Flying the Spanish Flag Will Be Expected to Adhere to the Rule.

There were two further important steps in Washington Friday toward actual hostilities, not to mention the overt act involved in the seizure of the vessel Buena Ventura off Key West. The first was the issue by the president of his proclamation announcing to the world a blockade of a number of Cuban ports and the second was the signing by him of the bill providing for the utilization of the volunteer forces in war.

Following up the formalities beginning with the blockade proclamation the state department Friday afternoon addressed a note to all of the representatives of foreign nations accredited to Washington notifying them of the policy to be pursued by this government in the matter of privateering and neutrality. This was followed by the sending of cable messages to all American embassies and legations abroad containing the same information for presentation to governments to which they are accredited.

In brief, it declares that our government will not resort to privateering; that the enemy's goods in neutral bottoms, save contraband, are exempt from seizure; that neutral goods not contraband under the enemy's flag are safe from seizure and that blockades to be binding must be effective. In substance these are the principles laid down in the agreement of Paris of 1856.

The officials are not disturbed at the semi-official notice from Madrid that Spain will refuse to be bound by the same principles and forbid privateering, for they are satisfied that the great commercial powers will not tolerate the practice of privateering under the Spanish flag.

Inasmuch as there exists a great amount of misapprehension, not only among foreign countries, but also among American shippers as to the character of merchandise that is contraband and liable to seizure during the progress of war, the following unofficial but authentic statement has been obtained from a high official of the government:

Contraband of War.

In determining, according to the law of nations, whether merchandise is contraband of war it is classified:

1. Absolute contraband.
2. Occasional or conditional contraband.
3. Goods not contraband.

The first-class includes all goods of a warlike character.

The second-class includes provisions, naval stores, coal, horses, certain kinds of machinery, certain forms of steel, iron, etc., which are subservient to warlike use and which are destined for the use of the enemy. They are contraband or not according to occasions and conditions as to their character, shipment and destined use. Every such case depends on its own facts.

The third class includes articles not suited to warlike use—such as church service and musical instruments, household wares and goods, and other such like articles.

WAR DECLARED BY BLANCO.

Captain General of Cuba Proclaims Existence of Hostilities.

A special from Havana says: Captain General Blanco has published a decree confirming his previous decrees and declaring the island to be in a state of war.

He also annuls his former similar decrees granting pardon to insurgents and places under martial law all those who are guilty of treason, espionage, crimes against peace or against the independence of the nation, seditious revolts, attacks against the form of government or against the authorities and against those who disturb public order, though only by means of printed matter.

RAISING WAR FUNDS.

Chairman Dingley Introduces Revenue Measure in the House.

Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, Saturday afternoon introduced in the house the war revenue measure which the republican members of the ways and means committee have prepared.

It is probable that this program will meet with opposition from the democrats, who have not been consulted in its preparation.

The democrats have already decided to offer an income tax amendment.

Chairman Dingley estimates that the measure as framed will raise between \$90,000,000 and \$100,000,000.